

State and Region Parliaments

News Bulletin

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Minister Flouts Evidence of Illegal Sawmills and Logging Near Mandalay



21st September 2016

An MP presented to the parliament on his visit to Sae Taw Gyi Lake region in Madaya township, where he witnessed an abundance of sawmills and illegal logging, and the regional Minister for Security and Border Affairs Colonel Myo Min Aung answered no such illegal logging nor sawmills exist in the alleged areas.

“It was very easy to see all the sawmills along the banks of the Sae Taw Gyi, as well as the many mills on the hills and foothills. It is clear that the mill owners would like to be arrested in rotation if the officials investigate,” said U Aung Kyaw Oo representing Aungmyaythazi Constituency 2 on 20th September, the first day of the third regular session of the 2nd Mandalay Region Hluttaw.

“Three- or 4-foot logs are being sent to the furniture making shops in Mandalay, transported under the false pretense of being firewood. The logs are carried at night, and in order to get them in to the city, the carriers must pass at least 10 official checkpoints where they pay K10,000 at each gate. According to our investigation, we are aware now that to obtain the logs, it is necessary to go deep into the protected forest. And yet, we found stockpiles of large timber at the riverside sawmills. These logs must have been carried

there by big, 12-wheel trucks or by boat. So I want to know why all this illegal activity, occurring so close to Mandalay city, is not being controlled,” he added.

“In Mandalay Region, foresters have never seen a case like this, and we have never punished any person related to such an offence,” said Minister Col Myo Min Aung.

“But there are no illegal sawmills, or illegal extraction of timber,” he said. “It is also not true that there are 10 checkpoints from Sae Taw Gyi to Mandalay. There is only one official gate at Shwe Kyin and no payment is necessary.” After the parliamentary session, U Kyaw Oo told The Myanmar Times that he was disappointed in the minister’s evasiveness.

“I am not satisfied with his answer because I asked this question with evidence and proof,” he said. “It is possible that he answered like that to avoid creating tension between the hluttaw and the cabinet. I will follow up in person with the security and border affairs ministry over the case.”

(Ref: Extracted from the Myanmar Times)

Photo News



Inception Ceremony of Kachin State Hluttaw Canteen is held on 20th September

Shan State Minister Responded that the Six-Hydropower Dam Projects Should be Discussed at the Union Level

21st September 2016

The six-hydropower dam projects on the Salween River should be discussed at the Union Level, responded U Soe Nyunt Lwin, the Shan State Minister of Planning and Economic, to the question submitted to the Shan State Parliament by Daw Nang Khin Htar Yee representing Hseni Constituency 1. That was his answer to the star question on the first day of the third regular session of the 2nd Shan State Hluttaw (20th September).

“The regional government shall manage hydropower dam projects that generate less than 30 megawatts. Projects that are above 30 megawatts should be discussed at the union level, “ said U Soe Nyunt Lwin.

The Shan State MP Daw Nang Khin Htar Yee submitted a question so as to find out: which companies are in charge, when the projects will start, what benefits Myanmar will gain and how the environmental impact assessment is conducted.

“Locals will protest strongly if a hydropower dam is built on the Salween River without their consent,” said Daw Nang Khin Htar Yee.

(Ref: Extracted from www.7daydaily.com)

Thirties Companies Showed Up for Ayeyarwady Region Hluttaw Building Design Tender Request

17th September 2016

Over 30 companies showed up within two days after requesting tender for the Ayeyarwady Region Hluttaw which will be built in Patheingyi, reported the hluttaw office. The site is 12 acres and the building is to take 5 acres. On 14th and 15th September, the invitation to study landscape and soil density was announced in state own newspapers.

“Companies that are interested will submit building design and we will choose with transparency and in accord with Association of Myanmar Architects rules and regulations,” said the deputy speaker U San Min Aung.

The hluttaw building committee should obtain permission on the building height from the Aviation Centre because the site is close to the Patheingyi Airport, suggested U Hla Myint, the managing director of Myanmar Million Group Company that attended.

This tender is only for hluttaw building design and the tender for construction will be called after the design is chosen. Any company is eligible to apply for the construction tender, said U Win Htay, the Minister of Electricity, Energy and Transportation.

(Ref: Extracted from www.7daydaily.com)



“Presentation on Land Rights and Investment Policy Developed from Social and Environmental Impact Assessment “ and “Analysis on Foreign Investment in Mon State Report Workshop” which are based on the research on large investment by State Human Rights Foundation are held on 20th September 2016

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Short News

➤ Although the Sagaing Region Hluttaw announced on 14th September to hold the fourth regular session on 5th October, a special session would be held instead on 3rd October since the government has to approve budget, said the deputy speaker U Boe Than Nyunt.

(Ref: Extracted from *The Voice Daily*)

➤ Government Guarantees, Pledges and Undertakings Review Committee was newly formed during the third regular session of the 2nd Mandalay Region Hluttaw on 21st September (the second day). There are 11 members including the chair and secretary, said the Speaker U Aung Kyaw Oo.

(Ref: Extracted from *The Mandalay News Journal*)

The Second Shan State Hluttaw's Committee

No.	Committee Name	Members			Total
		MPs	Military Representatives	Non-MPs	
1	Legislative Committee	10	–	1	11
2	Ethnic Affairs Committee	10	–	–	10
3	Complaint Letters Committee	5	–	–	5
4	Budget Review Committee	5	–	–	5
5	MPs Scrutinizing Committee	5	–	–	5
6	Guarantees, Pledges, Undertakings Review Committee	5	–	–	5
7	Legislation Review Committee	2	–	4	6

The Second Sagaing Region Hluttaw's Committee

No.	Committee Name	Members			Total
		MPs	Military Representatives	Non-MPs	
1	Legislative Committee	6	1	–	7
2	Ethnic Affairs Committee	6	1	–	7
3	MPs Scrutinizing Committee	6	1	–	7
4	Budget, Local Planning and Finance Committee	9	1	–	10
5	Rule of Law, Judiciary and Legislation Committee	8	1	–	9
6	Naga Self-Administered Zone Central Executive Committee	4	1	–	5

The Second Tanintharyi Region Hluttaw's Committee

No.	Committee Name	Members			Total
		MPs	Military Representatives	Non-MPs	
1	MPs Scrutinizing Committee	4	1	–	5
2	Legislative Committee	6	1	–	7
3	Ethnic Affairs Committee	5	–	–	5
4	Finance, Planning and Economic Committee	6	1	–	7
5	Guarantees, Pledges, Undertakings, Plea and Complaint Letters Review Committee	5	1	–	6
6	Agriculture, Livestock Breeding, Fisheries and Environment Committee	6	1	–	7



Hluttaw Committees of States are mentioned in other Bulletin.

Committee of other State Hluttaws will be provided as relevant.

Source: EMReF